Opinion

Being most severe morbidity of hypertension, Intracerebral Hemorrhage (HICH) was called a disease of “disability or death” due to high disability rate, high mortality rate, and also high economic burden for patient’s family [1,2]. It is crucial that taking some effective methods to treat this disease, however, the surgical management for HICH remain controversial, because every surgical method has its own shortages, for example, craniotomy often results to large trauma for brain and bad prognosis, even death, craniopuncture may be associated with long time of drainage of hemorrhage, and infections, such as pneumonia, intracrinal infection. In the recent two decades, as a new minimally invasive technique, endoscopy play an important role in removing HICH. Endoscopic evacuation for supratentorial intracerebral hemorrhage. Supratentorial intracerebral hemorrhage includes basal ganglia hemorrhage and intraventricular hemorrhage, which account for most of HICH. As the location of hemorrhage, the operating position is easy to set and endoscopy is convenient to be performed. Xin Z reported their case study [3], 100 patients were randomized into the endoscopic surgery group and the conservative treatment group, and found endoscopic group has better outcomes compared with the conservative group.

Endoscopic surgery presented many evident advantages in the removal of HICH [4], such as reducing manipulation of viable brain tissue, small incision and the delicate craniotomy, and better recovery. Endoscopic evacuation for cerebellar hemorrhage. Cerebellar hemorrhage is acute and life threatening due to mass effect causing compression of brain stem and fourth ventricle, so removing hemorrhage of the posterior fossa as early as possible is crucial to save patient’s life. Craniectomy and craniopuncture are alternative for removal of a cerebellar hemorrhage. However, the most common complication is wound problem, such as bad healing, infections, and Cerebrospinal Fluid (CSF) leakage. So postoperative wound is hard to manage. Bad postoperative management may result in failure of the entire treatment. For endoscopic approach, we can make a paramedic incision and small bone window, which can decrease the rate of pressing the wound. Endoscopic surgery can provide a safe, rapid and effective removal of cerebellar hemorrhage, especially for patient whose brain stem being compressed by a mass effect [5]. Brainstem hemorrhage is a disease with a bad prognosis no matter surgical management or conventional treatment.

Being retraction of brain tissue during craniectomy surgery can injury brain which may result in death of patient. Craniopunctuation for drainage of hemorrhage is a minimally invasive method, but blind puncture is still a problem and often take a long time for preformation, even using stereoscopic or imaging navigation. Endoscopic surgery has shown many of the advantages in removal of
supratentorial and cerebellar hemorrhage. There is no previously report to document the endoscopic management for brainstem hemorrhage. And endoscopy can do more in removal of intracerebral hemorrhage, I believe, combined with advanced location technology, such as imaging navigation, merged reality, endoscopic surgery may provide an effective, safe and rapid evacuation of brainstem hemorrhage.

In conclusion, endoscopic surgery is a minimally invasive, safe and effective way for management of intracerebral hemorrhage, and endoscopy can do more and go far in the future.

References